

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 03066 250041Z

60/11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 OES-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 OIC-02 EUR-12

ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIEP-01

OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-04 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

/122 W

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O R 240632Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 904

INFO ALL OAS CAPITALS 004

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3066

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARAS MISNUMBERED FROM 3 THRU 5)

USDEL 031

FOR: L/OES, THE GEOGRAPHER, USOAS AND ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, OAS

SUBJECT: SAN JOSE CONFERENCE - RIO TREATY, AREA OF COVERAGE

REF: STATE 172120; STATE 171364

1. SUMMARY. WORKING GROUP MEETING MORNING JULY 23 APPROVED
ARTICLE 4 BASED ON MAP 1 WITH CHANGES SUGGESTED BY USDEL
ALONG SE US COAST AND SOUTH ATLANTIC. GROUP ALSO AGREED
THAT (UNOFFICIAL) MAP WILL INCLUDE NO COUNTRY DESIGNATIONS,
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PAGE 02 SAN JO 03066 250041Z

SHADED AREAS FOR 200 MILE LIMIT, OR NATIONAL BOUNDARIES.

AFTER BRIEF DEBATE GENERAL COMMITTEE ACCEPTED WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS DESPITE SOME OBJECTIONS. USDEL BELIEVES STATEMENT FOR INCLUSION IN FINAL ACT OF CONFERENCE TO PROTECT OUR LEGAL POSITION ADVISABLE AND REQUESTS DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. WORKING GROUP OF BRAZIL (CHAIRMAN), ARGENTINA, USA, TRINIDAD AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MET TO PROVIDE GENERAL COMMITTEE WITH SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ARTICLE 4 (AREA OF COVERAGE). BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT MEETING WAS PRIVATE, INFORMAL AND NO MINUTES WERE KEPT. ARGENTINA PROPOSED ITS "BOX" TO EXTEND COVERAGE TO AREA AROUND SANDWICH ISLANDS. USDEL THEN MADE A PROPOSAL SUGGESTING THAT LINE NEAR SE US BE MOVED OUTWARD TO INCLUDE NEW YORK - RECIFE SHIPPING LANES; WE SUGGESTED ALSO THAT WHILE WE HAD NO OBJECTION TO SOMEWHAT GREATER AREA OF COVERAGE OFF EAST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA, WE BELIEVED IT DESIRABLE TO AVOID SHARP TURNS IN LINES RESULTING IN AREA OF COVERAGE THAT MIGHT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR A COUNTRY TO DETERMINE PROMPTLY WHETHER AN ATTACK HAD TAKEN PLACE INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE AREA. ARGENTINA AGREED, AND THE US PROPOSAL (PARAGRAPH 3 BELOW) WAS ACCEPTED. GROUP ALSO ACCEPTED INCLUSION OF CANADIAN TERRITORY AND PROPOSAL OF TRINIDAD THAT MAP USED TO ILLUSTRATE AREA OF COVERAGE CONTAIN ONLY CONTINENTAL OUTLINE, WITHOUT ANY COUNTRY BOUNDARIES OR LABELS AND WITHOUT ANY SHADED AREAS INDICATING 200 MILE MARGINS.

3. US PROPOSAL CALLS FOR DELETION OF THE SENTENCE IN THE DESCRIPTION OF MAP 1 FOLLOWING "A POINT 47 DEGREES N LATITUDE, 43 DEGREES W LONGITUDE", SUBSTITUTING "...THENCE BY A RHUMB LINE TO A POINT 36 DEGREES N LATITUDE, 65 DEGREES W LONGITUDE; THENCE BY A RHUMB LINE TO A POINT AT THE EQUATOR AND 20 DEGREES W LONGITUDE; THENCE DUE SOUTH TO THE POLE."

4. AFTER WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTED TO GENERAL COMMITTEE, MEXICO OBJECTED STRONGLY TO INCLUSION OF CANADA ON GROUNDS THAT AS CANADA WAS PARTY TO NATO THIS ESTABLISHED AN IMPROPER LINK WITH THAT SYSTEM. MEXICO ALSO ASKED THAT MAP CONTAIN INDICATION OF 200 MILE ZONE, NOT FOR LAW OF SEA REASONS BUT SIMPLY FOR PURPOSES OF ILLUSTRATION. PERU AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 SAN JO 03066 250041Z

ECUADOR ALSO INDICATED OPPOSITION TO INCLUSION OF ALL OF CANADA. NO ONE OBJECTED TO NEW AREAS OF COVERAGE NEAR SE US AND IN SOUTH ATLANTIC.

5. CANADIAN OBSERVER MADE BRIEF STATEMENT (TEXT WILL BE SENT SEPTEL WHEN AVAILABLE) NOTING THAT CANADIAN SILENCE ON ISSUE OF CANADIAN COVERAGE SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS CANADIAN SUPPORT OF INCLUSION, AND THAT CANADA WOULD NOT CONSIDER

AREA OF COVERAGE AS AFFECTING ANY CANADIAN TERRITORIAL OR OTHER CLAIMS.

6. ARGENTINE DELEGATE OBSERVED BRIEFLY THAT IT HAD ORIGINALLY PROPOSED A BROKEN LINE TO PERMIT INCLUSION OF "200 MILES OF ARGENTINE TERRITORY" IN THE VICINITY OF THE S. SANDWICH ISLANDS, BUT NOTED THAT IT WAS SATISFIED WITH STRAIGHT LINE THAT HAD BEEN PROPOSED BY THE WORKING GROUP AS AN ALTERNATIVE.

7. AFTER A RELATIVELY BRIEF DEBATE ARTICLE 4 WAS APPROVED, 16-2-3 (MEXICO AND PERU VOTED AGAINST; ECUADOR, PANAMA AND GRE OTHER ABSTAINED). (WE CONSIDER VOTE AN ACCEPTANCE AS WELL OF WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATION ON NATURE OF ILLUSTRATIVE MAP.) US DELEGATE CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY OF STATEMENT, BUT DECIDED AGAINST IT IN INTEREST OF AVOIDING PROLONGED DEBATE ON LAW OF THE SEA ISSUES. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT USDEL STATEMENT TO BE MADE AT TIME OF SIGNING AND RECORDED IN FINAL ACT OF CONFERENCE SHOULD INCLUDE PARAGRAPH TO THE EFFECT THAT THE UNITED STATES, IN SUPPORTING ARTICLE 4, DOES SO IN THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE AREA OF COVERAGE DELINEATED THEREIN HAS NO EFFECT WHATSOEVER ON THE SOVEREIGNTY OR NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF ANY OF THE TERRITORIES OR TERRITORIAL CLAIMS AFFECTING AREAS WITHIN THE REGION. PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS/CLEARANCE/ALTERNATIVE TEXT BY FRIDAY MORNING.

8. FOR THE GEOGRAPHER. PLEASE CHECK TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION OF LINE AS MODIFIED FOR ACCURACY AND ADVISE.

TODMAN

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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